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PRESS RELEASE

Effective July 1, 2012 the disposal of needles, syringes and lancets (collectively known as "sharps") in regular household trash has been banned in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. This ban includes trash disposed via the blue Natick trash bags as well as trash collected by a private trash hauler.

The Natick Board of Health in cooperation with the Natick Department of Public Works is providing a safe and convenient way for Natick residents to properly dispose their "home sharps". This disposal resource is solely for spent sharps created from personal use by Natick residents. The term "home sharps" does not include sharps generated by home health aides, visiting nurses, or any other person providing a professional service in a private residence.

Natick residents can deposit their spent sharps containers in a kiosk located in the lobby of the Department of Public Works building at 75 West St. Only containers specifically designed for sharps can be put in the kiosk. Sharps must be in a proper container and not individually disposed of in the kiosk. The kiosk is available during the office hours of the Department of Public Works. This is a secured leak-proof collection receptacle, the contents of which are inaccessible to unauthorized personnel.

Complimentary sharp containers for spent sharps are available for Natick residents at the Board of Health office at 13 East Central St. and at the Department of Public Works office.

For DPW lobby hours call 508-647-6550 or see http://natickma.gov/Public_Documents/NatickMA_Pubworks/index If you need further information please call the Natick Board of Health office at 508-647-6460.